

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Office Action dated March 27, 2007. In response to the issues raised, we offer the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

The specification has been amended at page 1 to include the 'CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS' section.

Claims 1-9, 11-23, 25-36 and 38-44 have been cancelled.

Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

Specification

Claims 6, 7, 9, 13, 21, 23, 42, 43, and 44 are objected to in light of informalities. As the amendments have cancelled these claims, the corresponding objections are now moot.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-9, 11-23, 25-39 and 41-44 stand rejected for having scopes that are co-extensive with those of claims 1-10, 11-24, 25-39 and 41 respectively of US 6,824,246. In light of paragraph 14 of the Official Action, the Applicant assumes the Examiner intended to reject claims 1-9, 11-23, 25-36 and 38-44.

In this case, the rejected claims have been cancelled, and thus the rejection is moot.

Claims – 35USC§102

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 9, 14-17, 20, 21, 23, 29, 30, 33, 34, 36 and 42-44 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of US 6,019,457 to Silverbrook. The rejected claims have been cancelled, and thus the rejection is moot.

Claims – 35USC§103

Claims 4, 5, 18, 19, 28, 31, 32 and 41 are rejected as obvious in light of US 6,019,457 to Silverbrook in view of US 5,706,041 to Kubby et al.

Claims 8, 22 and 35 are rejected as obvious in light of US 6,019,457 to Silverbrook in view of US 6,543,879 to Feinn et al.

Claims 11, 25 and 38 are rejected as obvious in light of US 6,019,457 to Silverbrook in view of US 4,965,594 to Komuro.

All the rejected claims have been cancelled, and thus these rejections are moot.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections are now moot and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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